

NRS STRATEGIC BOARD MEETING

Tuesday 22 August 2023

10:00-12:00

MS Teams

Attendees

Janet Egdell	Interim Chief Executive (Chair)
Gordon Shipley	Non-Executive Director
Maggie Waterston	Non-Executive Director
Alan Ferrier	Director of Statistics
Carla McHendry	Delivery Director
Laura Mitchell	Director of Information and Records Services & Deputy Keeper
Linda Sinclair	Director of Corporate Services & NRS Accountable Officer
Anne Slater	Director of Operations and Customer Services & Deputy Registrar General
Claire Gillespie	Chief Finance Officer
Senior Statistician (<i>Items 4 and 5</i>)	
NRS BMU – Secretariat	

Apologies:

Anne Moises	Non-Executive Director
Jon Wroth-Smith	Director of Census Statistics
Corporate Governance Manager	
Head of BMU	

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted as above.

2. Meeting held on 31 May 2023

2.1 Minutes from the last meeting were approved and would be published on the NRS website.

2.2 Review of Action Log

2.2.1 **Action SB 37:** Ongoing: advertisement of the Non-Executive Director roles would be progressed.

2.3 Declarations of Interest

2.3.1 No new declarations of interest were noted.

3. Corporate Overview

3.1 Carla McHendry introduced the paper.

3.2 The following topics were covered:

- Positive results of the 2023 Customer Survey.
- Success of the Declaration of Arbroath display at the National Museum of Scotland.
- Financial pressures for 2023/2024.
- Launch of the draft corporate strategy.
- Progress on major programmes including the New Register House roof, the Adam Dome refurbishment, and completion of exit from Ladywell House.

3.3 There was a discussion on options around resourcing and budget pressures, and on the next steps for the corporate strategy.

4. Census 2022 Update

4.1 Senior Statistician gave an update on the status of the programme, including plans for the first outputs, work with the International Steering Group, and engagement with UK counterparts and other stakeholders.

4.2 The recent TAF review acknowledged the level of commitment to delivery of first outputs to the planned schedule.

4.3 The level of cross-organisational work was welcomed by the meeting.

5. Future of Population Statistics, including Census

5.1 Janet Egdell shared a short paper highlighting that an objective of the Census programme was to provide advice to Ministers on a future Census.

5.2 A range of options were under consideration and deep dive activity was planned on technical infrastructure, data/surveys and legislation prior to a submission to Ministers.

6. Fee and income review

6.1 Anne Slater updated the meeting on this work area, noted as forming a key strand of NRS's Public Service Reform activity, which had short term and longer-term options.

6.2 Carla McHendry offered to update Non-Executive Directors following the options workshop.

6.3 A discussion followed on income, budget, and internal charging

Action SB 38: To update NXDs following the Fee and Income workshop.
Owner: Carla McHendry

7. Storage

7.1 Laura Mitchell presented a paper covering the challenges of the physical storage environment, highlighting plans for a strategic storage project, and discussions with peer organisations.

7.2 It was noted that a move to digital was not an immediate answer as funding and capacity would need to be addressed in that area.

8. Forward Look

8.1 The forward look document was reviewed for the meetings in December 2023 and March 2024.

9. AOB

9.1 No matters were raised.

10. Date of Next Meeting: 22 August 2023 and Close

10.1 The date of the next meeting was noted as 14 December 2023.

END